National Policy for Voluntary Organisation

2579. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the joint machinery for collaborative relationship between Government and the voluntary organisations has decided to formulate a national policy to involve the voluntary sector in the development efforts of the country;

(b) if so, the salient feaures of the proposed policy;

(c) whether the draft plan has been circulated for comments to the States, Voluntary Organisations and others concerned; and

(d) if so, the comments received from above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Joint Machinery for collaborative relationship between Government and the voluntary organisations had decided to formulate a national policy on the voluntary sector.

(b) to (d) A meeting of representatives of the voluntary sector was convened on 18th February 2005 to discuss the Draft Policy. In the meeting it was decided that the Draft Policy on this complex sector having lot of diversity requires through revision to revise the Draft Policy, expert groups have been constituted with members from voluntary sector.

Waiver of Central Debts

2580. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have been requesting the Central Government to waive off the Central Debt;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons advanced by the State Government in this regard; and

(d) the reaction of Government to these proposals from the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Several State